

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A curable fluoropolyether composition comprising

(A) a base polymer consisting of a fluoropolyether compound containing alkenyl radicals in a concentration of 3×10^{-5} to 5×10^{-3} mol/g and having a fluorine content of at least 40% by weight, the alkenyl radicals being attached either directly to both ends of the backbone of the fluoropolyether compound,

(B) a crosslinking agent or chain extender consisting of an organosilicon compound having the average compositional formula:(1)



wherein R is an alkyl radical of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, Rf is a partially fluorinated alkyl radical of 3 to 16 carbon atoms or a partially fluorinated, ether bond-containing monovalent saturated radical, and n has an average value of 1.5 to 6.0, and

(C) a hydrosilylation catalyst,

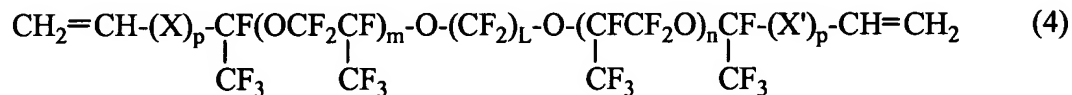
components (B) and (C) being used in effective amounts for component (A) to cure.

2. (Original) A rubber article comprising the curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 in the cured state.

3. (Original) The rubber article of claim 2 which is suitable for use in automobiles, chemical plants, ink jet printers, semiconductor manufacturing lines, analytic and scientific instruments, medical equipment, aircraft or fuel cells.

4. (Original) The rubber article of claim 2 which is in the form of a diaphragm, valve, O-ring, oil seal, gasket, packing, joint or face seal.

5. (New) The curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 wherein the fluoropolyether compound (A) is one having the following formula (4):

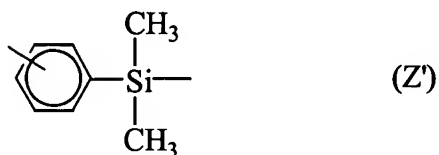


wherein X is independently selected from among -CH₂-, -CH₂O- and -Y-NR¹-CO-, wherein Y is -CH₂- or a radical of the following structural formula (Z):



wherein the bond may be at o, m or p-position and R¹ is hydrogen, methyl, phenyl or allyl,

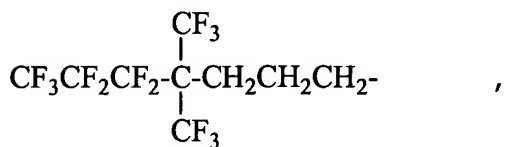
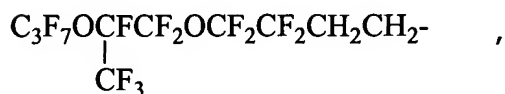
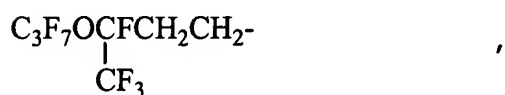
X' is independently selected from among $-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{OCH}_2-$ and $-\text{CO}-\text{NR}^2-\text{Y}'-$, wherein Y' is $-\text{CH}_2-$ or a radical of the following structural formula (Z'):



wherein the bond may be at o, m or p-position and R^2 is hydrogen, methyl, phenyl or allyl,

and p is independently equal to 0 or 1, L is an integer of 2 to 6, and m and n each are an integer of 0 to 200.

6. (New) The curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 wherein R_f in formula (1) is selected from the group consisting of the following formulae:



7. (New) The curable fluoropolyether composition of claim 1 wherein component (B) is blended in such an amount that 0.5 to 5 moles of hydrosilyl radicals are present per mole of alkenyl radicals in the entire composition.